



School: South Dakota State University
Type: Public
Location: Brookings, South Dakota
City population: 22,591
Distance from Sioux Falls: 53.5 miles
Popular majors: Nursing and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Student population: 11,118
Student/Faculty: 17:1
Average ACT: 23
Acceptance rate: 92.0%
Application fee: \$20

Thoughts from current student: “I would say it’s a great place to go because of all the experiences that are there if you just step outside of your comfort zone and go get it. It is also a place that very quickly starts to feel like home and is a very comfortable place to be yourself.”
– Mason Walker ‘13



School: University of Minnesota
Type: Public
Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota
City Population: 392,880
Distance from Sioux Falls: 235 miles
Popular majors: Engineering and Business
Student population: 52,557
Student/Faculty: 18:1
Average ACT: 28
Acceptance rate: 47.8%
Application fee: \$55

Thoughts from current student: “The University of Minnesota is a Big Ten school that gives off the sense of being in a city full of scholars striving to be as successful as possible.” – Alexander Shields ‘13



School: University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Type: Public
Location: Lincoln, Nebraska
City population: 265,404
Distance from Sioux Falls: 235.5 miles
Popular majors: Business and Engineering
Student Population: 19,103
Student/Faculty: 20:1
Average ACT: 25
Acceptance rate: 64%
Application fee: \$45

Thoughts from a current student: “Nebraska provides a great education and has an awesome atmosphere. The football games are a blast, too.” – Austin Holzer ‘12



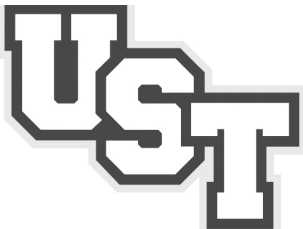
School: University of Sioux Falls
Type: Private
Location: Sioux Falls, South Dakota
City population: 159,908
Popular majors: Nursing and Education
Student Population: 1,194
Student/Faculty: 15:1
Average ACT: 23
Acceptance rate: 55%
Application fee: \$0

Thoughts from a current student: “The best part of going to USF is the sense of unity that you get when you come here. As soon as you enter campus, people are so genuinely kind and I have made a ton of friends since I came here because everyone is so welcoming.”
– Zach Dresch ‘11



School: University of South Dakota
Type: Public
Location: Vermillion, South Dakota
City Population: 10,811
Distance from Sioux Falls: 63 miles
Popular majors: Education and Health Professions
Student population: 10,284
Student/Faculty: 17:1
Average ACT: 24
Acceptance rate: 89%
Application fee: \$35

Thoughts from current student: “USD has something to offer everyone, but only if you are open to new experiences.” – Jacob Akerson ‘13



School: University of St. Thomas
Type: Private, Catholic
Location: St. Paul, Minnesota
City population: 392,880
Distance from Sioux Falls: 235 miles
Popular majors: Business and Communication
Student population: 10,316
Student/Faculty: 14:1
Average ACT: 26
Acceptance rate: 84%
Application fee: \$0

Thoughts from current student: “St. Thomas is a great community of people with many incredible opportunities. I knew I belonged here right away.”
– Thomas Motz ‘13

O’Gorman Top Five Colleges

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
1	USD	USD	SDSU	SDSU	USD
2	SDSU	SDSU	USD	USD	SDSU
3	Augustana	UNL	St. Thomas	UNL	UNL
4	UNL	MSU - Mankato	Creighton	Augustana	St. Thomas
5	DSU	Augustana	UNL	Minnesota	Minnesota
* Data collected from Senior Salute Surveys 2009-2013					

Wrestlers determined to rekindle past success

Sam Breske
Activities Co-Editor

After a successful year last year, the O'Gorman Knights wrestling team is preparing for a new season with many returning members.

Last year both Conor Tomac and Jack Schuver were top seven finishers, with Tomac finishing sixth in the 126 pound weight class and Schuver finishing seventh in the 220 pound weight class.

The members of the team this year hope to build on last year's success.

"We have a lot of guys that are coming back and have been working to get better, and that's going to translate to more success," said senior captain Sam Weisensee.

Last year, with Schuver in the 220 spot, Weisensee wrestled one weight class higher than he qualified for.

This year he will be in his natural weight class. "It will be nice to wrestle people that are actually my size," said Weisensee.

The Knights look to capitalize on their veteran talent as they look forward to the upcoming season.

Knights look to rebound from last year

Sam Weisensee
Staff Writer

While the 2012-13 season didn't match the success of previous years, this year's O'Gorman boys basketball team hopes to return to its winning ways.

"Getting back into championship form is more than a seasonal thing," said head coach Derek Robey. "I believe in order for the Knights to get back to where we once were, you have to start right away at the end of last season."

"I never really go into a year with the intentions of having a rebuilding year," said Robey. "We want to be the best team we can possibly be."

Players are confident they have a shot to hang another banner this year. "We've got all the pieces to make a run. We are definitely among the most athletic programs in South Dakota," said returning starting guard Braxton Elliott.

The Knights had many young players in the mix last year. "We are going to play the best kids regardless of their grade level or age," said Robey. "Quite honestly, we will again have a lot of young kids making huge contributions to the success of this year's team."

The Knights have been largely successful in winning five state titles in the last eight years. "There is no secret recipe, I believe in hard work and surrounding yourself with the best possible people you can. I believe in



KNIGHT SCROLL

Junior Braxton Elliot looks to pass the ball in a game against the Watertown Arrows. The Knights will look to build off of last year's performance as they hope to return to the state tournament in Rapid City this year. The Knights failed to make the playoffs last year going 6-16 on the year.

dedication and having passion for the game," said Robey.

O'Gorman seems to be as dedicated as ever this year with "ALL IN" as the theme for their season. "Most of the guys we are counting on know what it will take and have taken huge strides to make us better as a team," said Robey.

"Basketball, basketball, basketball; it's all I do in the summer and that goes for a lot of our guys," said forward Jack Peery.

The Knights return numerous players with game experience this year: Braxton Elliot with 186 points, 77 rebounds and 41 assists last year; Davis Cowan with 66 points, 27 rebounds and 3 assists last year; Connor Nagel with 116 points, 68 rebounds and 29 assists; Max Donohue with 38 points, 14 rebounds and five assists last year; Ben Johnson with 29 points, 77 rebounds and seven assists last year; Spencer Hop-

kins with 58 points, 52 rebounds and 11 assists last year.

O'Gorman is poised to make another run at the state title this year. The Knights have as good of a shot as anyone with decorated head coach Derek Robey at the helm.

The state tournament will be held March 20-22 at the Civic Center in Rapid City, SD.

Offensive woes lead to big loss as Knights drop semifinal game

Ben Rogers
Sports Co-Editor

The Knights saw their season fall short of their goals as they lost in the semifinals to the Lincoln Patriots 28-0.

The playoffs started for the Knights out in Rapid City as they traveled there for the second straight week. In the first trip out the Knights won a close game 7-6.

"That was a good win to get. We needed to get some momentum going into the playoffs," said senior Jake Niedringhaus.

That victory meant the team would have to make the trek back out to Rapid City the following week for the first round of the South Dakota IIAAA playoffs.

The second matchup was a much better performance for the Knights on the offensive side as they won 28-14.

The Knights were led by sophomore Luke Fritsch as he carried the ball 19 times for 117 yards and three scores. The Knights also got a touchdown from senior Eion Donelan as he carried the ball 10 times for 71 yards.

A victory in the quarterfinals set up a rematch of the Presidents Bowl where the Knights fell 51-20 to the number one ranked team, Lincoln.

The Knights played the Patriots tough, but turnovers plagued the Knights offense as they struggled to get anything going.

Patriots senior quarterback Connor Burchill left the game in the first half after he tore his ACL while sliding. That would mean junior Isaiah Roach would have to take his place.

This wouldn't slow down the Patriots offense, though, as they cruised to a 28-0 victory over O'Gorman.

"It was a really tough loss to take. We came into that game and this season with high expectations and that is not how we wanted to end," said senior Max Boyum. "But you have to give credit to Lincoln. They were dominant the whole year."

The loss meant the first losing season O'Gorman has had under the helm of head coach Steve Keuter, who has coached at O'Gorman for 36 years.

Veteran squad has big goals as new season set to begin

Nate Sotebeer
Staff Writer

The O'Gorman Lady Knights basketball team has high goals this year, coming off a 15-11 campaign last year.

The Lady Knights return six seniors to a team that lost one player to graduation.

Head coach Kent Kolsrud said, "We return a veteran squad that is excited to showcase their talents and abilities."

"Losing Allie Kneip is our biggest weakness," said senior Claire Howes. "Senior leadership, though, should be a strength this season."

Along with teamwork and experience, the Lady Knights have a strong de-

fense. Opponents shot only 37% against O'Gorman last year, and players expect the same. "We play good defense, which helps us win games," said junior Jessica Mieras.

Offense has been a weakness for the team, as they scored a meager 44.7 points per game last season.

"Executing on offense is our biggest weakness," said Mieras. However, Howes expects the team to correct some of that. "We always look for Jess Mieras in the post, and Dalee Stene is returning at point guard."

Despite last season's seventh place finish in the state tournament, players have indicated lofty goals for the upcoming year.

"I think this group of kids has high expectations for themselves. We want to win state, and I think we can do it," said Mieras.

"We have the ability to go far if we always play our best," said senior Paige Leafstedt.

City rivals will likely be the Lady Knights' biggest challenges this year, Kolsrud said.

"All the teams in the city will be very good. We play a very competitive schedule with many good challenges."

"Roosevelt is a rival that always plays us tough," said Howes.

"Washington also has many returning players and should be good," said Leafstedt.

Boys take 4th in state CC; teams build for next year

Kate Brycheeva
Entertainment Co-Editor

The Knights cross country teams had success for both teams this year, as the girls finished 10th and the boys placed fourth in the state.

No matter the places in state, head coach Doug Lindner believes O’Gorman had a positive season. “I believe good teams are not defined by their final place, but in a broader picture, by how far they have come during the season. In that sense we had a very positive year,” said Lindner.

Lindner also has high hopes for next year. “This is the type of challenge you want for your team. When you achieve that ultimate goal, you want it to be something you had to work for. The greater the challenge, the bigger the reward. Greatness courts failure.”

Lady Knights claim state title

Tommy Entwistle
Sports Co-Editor

The O’Gorman girls completed a dominant fall season with a state volleyball title.

The top-ranked Lady Knights capped off a nearly perfect season with a three-game sweep of second-ranked Roosevelt in the state championship match in the world’s only Corn Palace.

After an undefeated regular season, the Lady Knights began district play by cruising past the Brookings Bobcats with a 25-11, 25-14, 25-15 victory. Junior Taryn Kloth led the way for the Lady Knights with 18 kills as the Lady Knights advanced to play Roosevelt in the district finals.

Although the Lady Knights defeated the Riders in their two regular season meetings, this match ended differently as the Riders rallied to hand the Lady Knights their first loss of the season 22-25, 25-21, 25-16, 25-20 for the district 1AA title in a packed and pulsating O’Gorman gym.

The Lady Knights bounced back and swept Lincoln in region



BEN ROGERS / KNIGHT SCROLL

Taryn Kloth winds up to spike the ball against Sioux Falls Christian. The Lady Knights beat the riders in the title game at the Corn Palace in Mithcell, SD.

play 25-19, 25-9, 25-16 to punch their ticket to the state tournament.

“The loss to Roosevelt really helped give us that extra push and motivation we needed going into the state tournament,” said Kloth.

O’Gorman, coached by Julie Kolbeck, dispatched Rapid City Central in its opening match of the state tournament to exorcise

the demons of last year’s disappointing first round loss.

Fifth-seeded Aberdeen Central, supported by a contingent of Bible-toting fans, hoped to upset the Lady Knights in the semifinals. However, it was the Lady Knights, not the Golden Eagles, who soared to a three-game sweep and a berth in the state title match.

In the championship match O’Gorman avenged its only loss of the season with a convincing sweep of the Riders.

The Lady Knights, who were not ranked in the preseason poll, were led in the title match by Kloth with 20 kills and 10 digs. The Lady Knights finished off a nearly perfect season by winning their first title since 2002.

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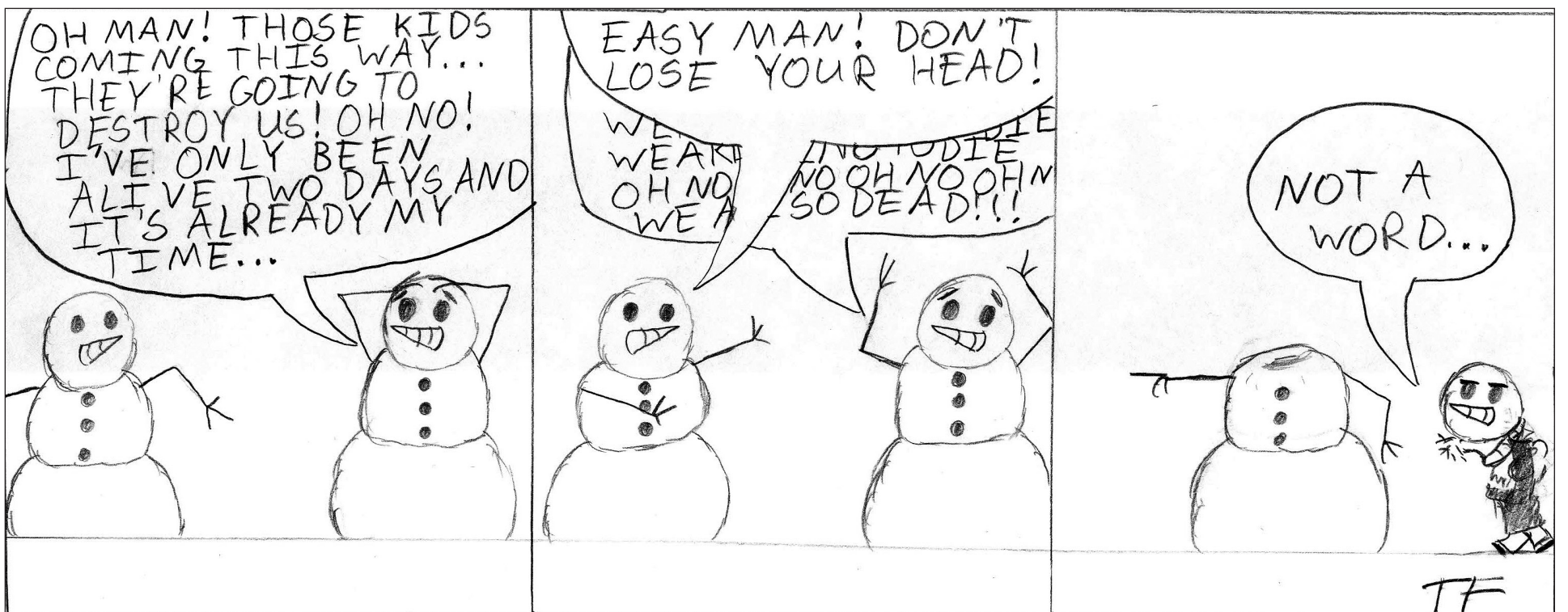


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Football jumps to 11AAA: Smart move or bad misstep?

In the wake of a tough 28-0 loss to the Lincoln Patriots in the Nov. 8 semi-final game, rumblings of an unwise jump to Class 11AAA can be heard in the O'Gorman community.

These same objections were raised after each of the other five losses, as well, showing an unfortunate pessimism amongst the so-called supporters of O'Gorman football.

The same fans that backed the move to 11AAA at the start of the season quickly flipped sides, increasing their opposition with every setback.

Now, surely the season was not what fans, coaches and players hoped for, and it is certainly easy to place the blame for the losses on the preseason move to 11AAA.

But let us not place blame where blame is not due. In looking at the issue deeply and not superficially, the reasons for the change become clearer.

Perhaps the strongest argument for the move to 11AAA was the need to uphold the tradition of O'Gorman football. For

years, O'Gorman football has thrived amongst South Dakota's finest in Class 11AA. To discontinue playing at the highest level possible would be to discontinue the pride we all feel, or used to feel, in the program.

By opting to play in 11AAA, O'Gorman chose to



Justin Kautz

maintain its image as a top-level competitor.

You may ask: what does tradition matter when we're losing? In answer to that, consider the idea that, perhaps, tradition and honor are more important than numbers on a scoreboard.

Another reason for the change to 11AAA lies in the fact that if O'Gorman had stayed in 11AA, the team would likely not have experienced a substantial dif-

ference in success. Some say that, because our team lost to Pierre, Yankton and Watertown, we should have competed in their same class.

However, this argument only serves to promote the move - why experience those losses in 11AA when you can experience them in 11AAA?

Finally, we must consider the alternate circumstances that hindered the success of the 2013 season. Plagued by countless untimely injuries and twice facing the talented state champions, O'Gorman couldn't stack up as a matter of circumstance, not as a matter of miscalculation.

Long forgotten, too, is the fact that once upon a time, O'Gorman actually opted up into Class 11AA. Today, that move seems obviously necessary, but it probably faced criticism similar to what the program is facing now.

Perhaps, if we give the program a chance and stand behind its move, it will prove itself as a dominant force in the city once again.

O'Gorman can no longer match up with the size of the 11AAA teams, whether it be in pure numbers of players going out for the team, or in terms of actual size of players.

Speculation and debate have arisen ever since the SDHSAA decided to add a new football class to the existing six class system in South Dakota.

O'Gorman was originally selected by the board to be in the 11AA level. So in turn O'Gorman had to petition up to the 11AAA level.

The average weight of the offensive lineman for the Lincoln Patriots this year was 260 pounds, and their smallest guy was 236 pounds. Their largest man was tipping the scales at 297 pounds.

In contrast to that O'Gorman's largest lineman was 230 lbs. It has nothing to do with ability, but comes down to physics - the smaller an object the easier it is to move.

Another reason O'Gorman should have stayed in the 11AA level is the fact that they had two-

thirds of the players 11AAA teams had.

The average number of players who went out for the 11AAA teams was over 60. O'Gorman had 43 students go out this year.

More players means deeper depth charts, fresher legs in the fourth quarter



Ben Rogers

and more weapons to use on offense.

Maybe O'Gorman should have listened when the SDHSAA put us in 11AA, maybe we shouldn't have petitioned up, maybe we would be celebrating a state championship victory right now, and maybe we would be starting new traditions.

Who knows, hindsight is 20/20. So all we can do now is debate and bicker

about it.

It was obviously not a guaranteed state championship victory if O'Gorman had stayed in 11AA. But there is no denying the fact that it was a much better chance. Who would you rather play in a semi-final game - Lincoln or Pierre?

The ultimate question is this: how many of you students and fans would have rather been in those Dakota Dome stands on that Friday night cheering on a state championship game versus sitting at home?

How many of you football players would rather be playing in a game you will remember for the rest of your life, a game that you have put your entire mind, body and soul into, or instead watch it on television?

And finally, how many of you football coaches would have liked to see the look on your players faces at the end of the season after all that hard work, sweat, blood, and tears they put in, all fulfilled into one moment when they raised that state championship trophy over their heads?

Photo Survey

What do you want for Christmas?



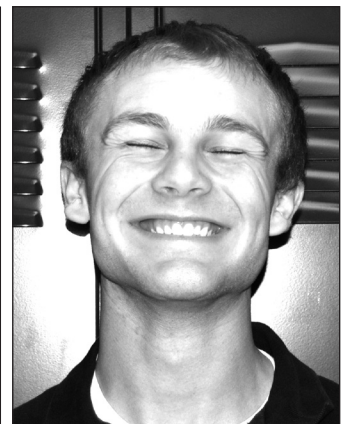
"A puppy"
- Sam Czarnecki



"A trip to Canada"
- Zach Bettmeng



"A tennis racket"
- Morgan Brower



"My two front teeth"
- Alex Linneman

Survey reveals student habits for TV viewing

Erin McInerney
Staff Writer

Survey says: O'Gorman students love their prime time television. The time that teenagers spend watching TV is between 7-10 p.m.

"I watch two hours a week at the most," said junior Peter Sorenson. Many other students cited that they watch, at the very most, about an hour of television a day (compared to the U.S. average of four hours).

What students are watching, though, varies far more than when and how. Juniors Emma Kirby, Dalee Stene and Taryn Kloth all agree that their favorite shows are reality-based. In a survey taken recently, there is a large trend for favorite television shows to revolve around

crime, action and drama.

"History is made every day," said Derek Domangue, while explaining why his favorite shows are documentaries. Many students' automatic answer to their preferred viewing genre is comedy.

Cable still reigns king over the way students are watching their favored programs, despite the rise in alternate viewing options. The most beloved form of watching TV isn't always the most common, however. Netflix, not cable, is easily the preferred method of watching.

"Netflix is my life," said junior Katie Badillo.

DVR also remains a strong contender when it comes to those series that can't be found on Netflix.

Review: *Ender* disappoints in latest book adaptation

Cheyenne Chontos
Faith Editor

On Nov. 1, director Gavin Hood and Summit Entertainment came out with the movie adaptation of the bestselling novel *Ender's Game*. As the novel is the winner of several awards, including the Nebula Award and the Hugo Award, expectations were high.

Unfortunately, those expectations were not met. The movie included several notable actors with Harrison Ford as Colonel Graff and Asa Butterfield as Ender Wiggin and some impressive special effects, but the overall quality was undoubtedly lacking.

The only thing the movie and the novel seemed to have in common was the title. The actors did a splendid job with what they had, but unfortunately what they had was a poorly written and childish script. The characters



PRESS PHOTO

Ender talks to Colonel Graff before entering the battle.

and the story seemed juvenile and the plot was almost completely changed from the book.

Some parts were understandably left out or changed in order to keep the movie at a reasonable length. However, some changes that were made were completely

unnecessary, and the uneven pacing throughout the movie had viewers struggling to understand what was going on.

So far there are no plans to make a film adaptation of *Speaker for the Dead*, the next book in the *Ender's Game* series.

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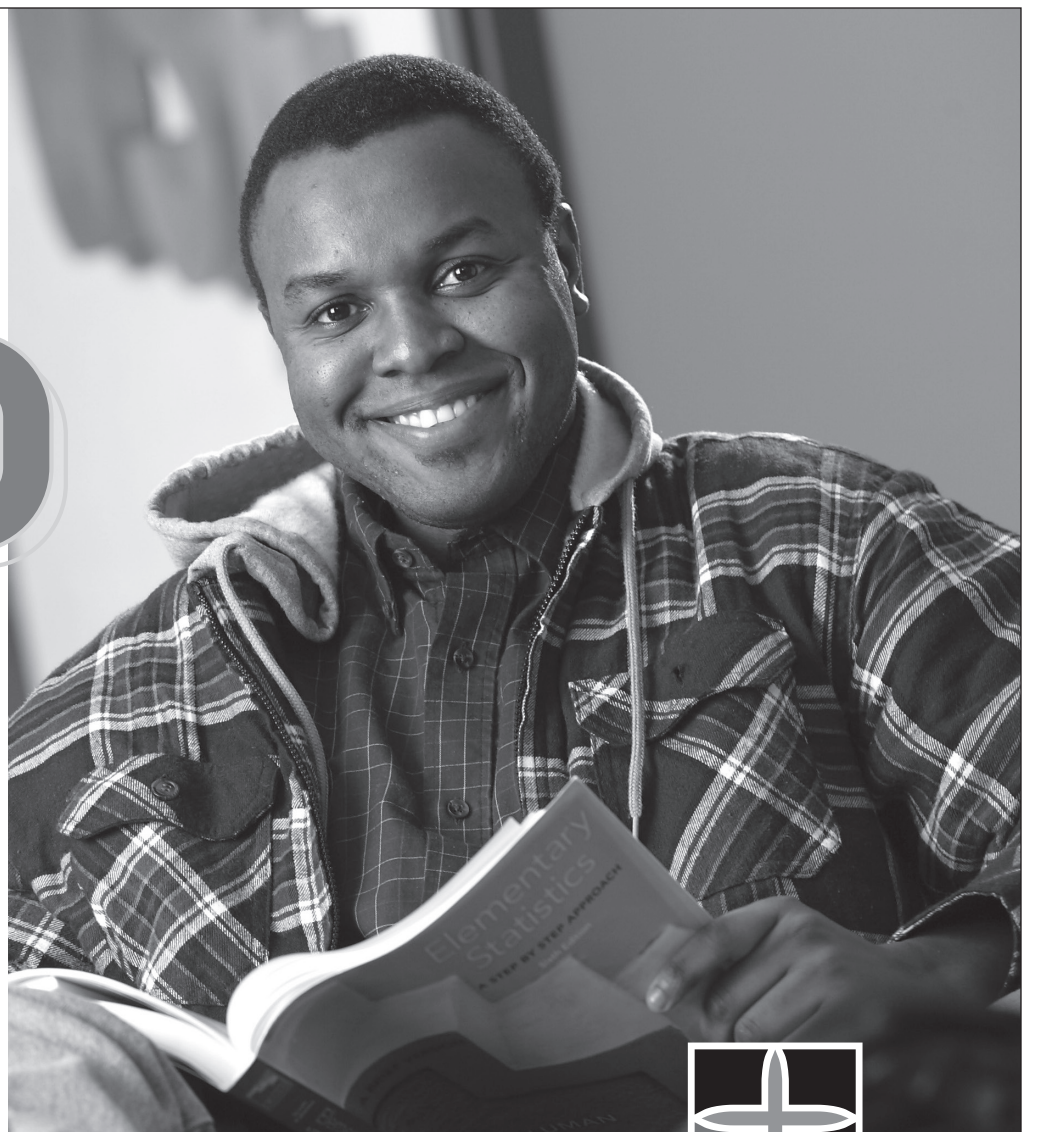
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